

Serial No. 09/966,276
Art Unit: 1742

Remarks

Claims 1-21 are currently pending in the above-captioned matter. Applicants respectfully acknowledge that the objection and rejections under 35 USC §102 and §103 found in the Official Action mailed May 20, 2003 have been withdrawn, as well as the Examiner's indication that claims 1-21 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph.

By this amendment, claims 1, 2, 7 and 19 have been amended to clarify the claim language. No narrowing amendment was intended nor required, there having been no prior art cited in the current Official Action. After entry of this amendment, claims 1-21 are pending, claims 1 and 19 being independent. Remarks made herein are based on the claims as amended hereby.

As suggested by the Examiner, independent claims 1 and 19 have been amended to more clearly define component a). Dependent claims 2 and 7 have been amended to conform their language to that of the independent claims. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, are sufficiently clear to one of ordinary skill in the art and that the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph should be withdrawn.

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Conclusion

Applicants request reconsideration in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein. Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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